

## TAX ASSISTANCE

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Beginning February 1 and up to April 15, the AARP will be helping citizens with their federal and state income tax returns in the following locations at the following times:

- Fridays and Saturdays 9:30-1:00  
Main Library
- Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00-12:30  
Templeton Senior Center - 225 Wiggington Rd.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-1:00  
Downtown Branch Library
- Thursdays 9:00-12:00  
Bedford Central Library
- Mondays 9:00-12:30  
Madison Heights Library
- Tuesdays 1:00-4:00  
Buckingham County Library, Dillwyn, VA



In 2003, the AARP Tax-Aide program had nearly 32,000 volunteers who assisted 1.85 million persons at sites throughout the United States.

## TEEN CONTESTS

Dozens of teens responded positively to the *Teen Murder Mystery Program* in October and the *Teen Christmas Craft Program* in December. This show of interest has convinced Youth Services to continue offering teen programs throughout 2005.

What better way for teens to begin the New Year than to enter a *Great Beginnings Contest* during January? Entry forms with the first sentence of a dozen books will be available in the Young Adult room. Teens need to identify the title of the book to which each sentence belongs and then submit the entry for a drawing. The winner will receive a pair of tickets to the Carmike Cinema 8.

If you have an idea for a teen program, please visit or call the Youth Services Department at 455-6320.



## ANGEL TREE UPDATE

Thank you to all who contributed to the library's senior citizens' Angel Tree this season. We had a total of 32 angels and all but three were returned. The program's sponsor, Atlantic Bay Mortgage, had a total of 684 angels and 582 were returned. Thanks to the generosity of the area's residents, 582 senior citizens had a Merry Christmas. The library hopes to sponsor an Angel Tree again in 2005.

## LYNCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY



2315 Memorial Avenue  
Lynchburg, Virginia 24501

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 264  
Lynchburg, Va.

## LYNCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY



# Newsletter

VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 1

[www.lyncburgva.gov/publiclibrary](http://www.lyncburgva.gov/publiclibrary)

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2005



## LYNCHBURG READS 2005 –

*Wish You Well by David Baldacci*

It is time once again for the annual community reads program. The highlight of Lynchburg Reads will be the author's appearance. **Mr. Baldacci will be speaking in the Houston Chapel at Randolph-Macon Woman's College at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, April 6, 2005.**

The library will hold a book discussion on Wednesday, March 16 at 1:00 PM in the community room. Local bookstores will also be holding book discussions; a schedule will be available later.

*Wish You Well* takes place in southwestern Virginia in 1940. After a car accident kills their father and leaves their mother, Amanda, in a catatonic trance, 12-year-old Lou Cardinal and her 7-year-old brother Oz find themselves sent from New York City to their great-grandmother Louisa's farm in Virginia. Louisa's hardscrabble existence comes as a profound shock to precocious Lou and her shy brother. Still struggling to absorb their abandonment, they enter gamely into a life that tests them at every turn – and offers unimaginable rewards. This book was met with much praise when it was published in 2000. Publisher's Weekly called it, "Utterly captivating... What the novel offers above all is bone-deep emotional truth.... Its myriad characters—each as real as readers' own kin—grapple not just with issues of life and death but with the sufferings and joys of daily existence in a setting detailed with finely attuned attention and a warm sense of wonder. This novel has a huge heart."

Multiple copies of the book in print, large print, audiocassette, and CD are available at the library.

### REMINDER:

#### New Library Phone Numbers

By now we hope that our patrons have become accustomed to using the new phone numbers. You must use the new numbers when calling either library. Phone numbers are located on the front page of this newsletter. A city-wide savings has resulted from the use of the new telephone system.

## NEW DATABASES

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For the next few issues, we will highlight the new databases that are available through Find It Virginia from the library's web page. These databases may be accessed by anyone from within both libraries or from home or any other remote location by anyone with a library card from any Virginia public library. To access the databases, go to the library's web page at [www.lyncburgva.gov/publiclibrary](http://www.lyncburgva.gov/publiclibrary) and click on "Information Resources." From there, click on "Databases" and see what Find It Virginia has to offer.

The **Biography Resource Center** database puts biographical information just a click away. More than 400,000 biographies on nearly 320,000 people from around the world and throughout history are contained in the database. You can search by typing in the person's name, or you can browse a number of categories such as occupation, nationality, gender, etc.

Besides biographical information, the entries may include a photograph, full-text magazine articles, and links to useful websites.

Spend some time exploring the site and the next time you need biographical information, you will know where to look!

### MAIN LIBRARY

2315 Memorial Ave.  
Lynchburg, VA 24501

Circulation, Renewals,  
Returns, Library Cards  
455-6300

Reference and  
Information  
455-6310

Youth Services  
455-6320

Administration and  
Technical Services  
455-6330

Volunteer Program  
455-6330

### LIBRARY HOURS

#### Main

Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.  
9:30 AM-5:30 PM

Tues., Thurs.  
9:30 AM-9:00 PM

#### Downtown Branch

Mon. – Fri.  
9:30 AM-5:30 PM

### DOWNTOWN BRANCH AND LAW LIBRARY

900 Church Street  
Lynchburg, VA 24504  
455-3820

### CLOSED

Monday, January 17  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 21  
President's Day

[www.lyncburgva.gov/publiclibrary](http://www.lyncburgva.gov/publiclibrary)

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## YOUTH SERVICES AT THE LYNCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY

*Winter/Spring 2005*

### WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Registration began Monday, January 10.  
Registration must be done in person.

#### TALES FOR TWOS

20-minute programs designed  
especially for 2-year-old  
listeners and their parents.

January 24- May 17

Mondays at  
10:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.

or

Tuesdays at 10:30 or 11:00 a.m.

*A parent or caregiver must  
attend. Siblings are welcome.*

#### PRESCHOOL PIZZAZZ

30-minute programs designed  
especially for children ages 3-5.

January 25- May 18

Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. or  
Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

*While parents do not attend  
storytime with preschoolers, we  
rely on them to be our partners  
and ask that they remain in the  
library during programs.*

### MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Registration not required.

#### BORN TO READ STORYTIMES

20 minute lapsit programs  
of rhymes, stories, songs  
and activities designed  
for children under  
the age of two.

Second Friday of each  
month at 10:30 a.m.

January 14      April 8  
February 11     May 13  
March 11        June 10

#### HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS

Drop-in between 2-4 p.m.

**Valentine's Day**  
Saturday, February 12

**Springtime**  
Wednesday, March 30

**Mother's Day**  
Saturday, May 7

### NOW PLAYING

*@ your library™*

A host of books have been made into movies which are currently playing in nearby theaters or available on video/DVD. Below is a sampling of the many titles. If you liked the movie, now read the book!

- ***Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo** - A 10-year-old girl, abandoned by her mother when she was three, moves to a small town in Florida with her father, a preacher. While there, she adopts a stray dog whom she names after the local supermarket where he was found. With her goofy pooch by her side, she meets an eclectic group of townspeople and rekindles an almost lost relationship with her father.
- ***The Bourne Supremacy* by Robert Ludlum** - When a CIA operation to purchase classified Russian documents is blown by a rival agent--who then shows up in the sleepy seaside village where Bourne and Marie have been living under assumed names--the pair collapse their lives and head out. Bourne, who promised retaliation should anyone from his former life attempt contact, is forced to once again take up his life as a trained assassin to survive.
- ***The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg** - When a doubting young boy takes an extraordinary ride on a steam train to the North Pole, he embarks on a journey of self-discovery that shows him that the wonder of life never fades for those who believe.
- ***A Series of Unfortunate Events* by Lemony Snicket** - Fourteen-year-old Violet is brave and a fast-thinking

leader. Klaus, who's 12, is highly intelligent and obsessed with words. Sunny, an infant, speaks in a language only Violet and Klaus can understand, and she has a tendency to...bite. After their parents perish in a terrible fire, these three siblings are taken in by a series of odd relatives and other individuals, starting with Count Olaf, a demented evil genius who hatches one outrageous plot after another in order to get his hands on the children's vast inheritance.

- ***Skippping Christmas* by John Grisham** - The movie is titled "Christmas with the Kranks." In it Luther and Nora Krank, who usually look forward to Christmas, decide to skip the big holiday this year; it just won't be the same without their daughter, who's vacationing in the tropics. They think about joining her in sunny paradise as a surprise, but she ends up shocking them instead by cutting her trip early to spend Christmas at home. What follows is a mad scramble to prepare for a traditional Christmas on extremely short notice.
- ***A Very Long Engagement* by Sebastien Japrisot** - Dissatisfied with the official account of her fiancé, Jean Etchevery's death in WW I, wheelchair-bound painter Mathilde Donnay resolves to find out the truth - with unexpectedly moving results at the end of a twisted trail. Etchevery was one of five soldiers condemned to death for self-mutilation (shooting themselves in the hands), marched to the no-man's-land between the French and German lines, and left to die. But as Mathilde talks to the dying sergeant who was in charge of the detail and pores over the documents confirming the circumstances of the execution, telltale discrepancies give her hope that Etchevery is still alive.

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

*Tom Womack, Computer Lab Coordinator*



This issue's employee spotlight focuses on one of our newest employees, Tom Womack. Tom was hired in November as the main library's computer lab coordinator. As such, he teaches most of the computer classes, and he makes up the class schedule each month. He has added a new class - Microsoft Publisher - and will be adding a few other new classes in the near future. Look for Windows Tricks and Tips in January!

Tom's position at the library is part-time. He is also a small business owner: Alternative Images, located on Rivermont Avenue ([www.alternative-images.net](http://www.alternative-images.net)). He has been a professional photographer for 20 years, and in the past five years has become interested in digital photography and restoration. Before coming to the library to teach the computer classes, he taught digital photography classes for the Lynchburg Parks and Recreation department, and other organizations.

When Tom was 10, his father took a job at B&W (now Areva) and moved the family from California to Lynchburg. Tom graduated from E.C. Glass High School and has continued to live in the area ever since.

Tom used to run the Virginia Ten Miler every year, until his knees protested too much. Now his exercise of choice is the bicycle; besides his regular bicycle, he and his wife Betsy have a tandem bicycle that they enjoy riding when time permits.

Both Tom and Betsy love to travel. Some of his favorite places are Arizona and Mexico. He has been to Cancun, Juarez, and Chichen Itza and has beautiful photographs to show for it! They also enjoy getting together with their children and grandchildren.

For more information on the computer lab and computer classes, call the Adult Reference desk at 455-6310.

## Library History - THIRD IN A SERIES

With the opening of the Lynchburg Public Library in April 1966, the Friends of the Library might have rested on their laurels and taken a well-deserved rest. However, that was not their nature - in just three years, these citizen volunteers had created their organization, conducted a citywide campaign that netted 5,000 dues paying members, and then successfully petitioned City Council to establish a tax-supported public library. In mid-1966, there was still tremendous energy within the organization; all they needed was a new project.

Under the able leadership of Dr. C. H. Lippard, the second president, the Board decided to sponsor the Central Virginia Asian-Affairs Study, a project that would involve the entire community. The Old Dominion Foundation provided a \$10,000 grant to fund the 3-month long program.

"Why Asia?" you might wonder. As Dr. Lippard said in a letter to the community, "...we have been a Europe-oriented country because our country had its roots there....It is becoming increasingly apparent that the intense problems we and our children will have to face will involve Asia....Increased understanding ... of the factors that influence how Asiatic people think and act...is essential."

In 1968, a 3-month series of programs focused on developing an understanding of six Asian countries commenced. Speakers, including Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Harrison Salisbury, Frederick Nolting, former US Ambassador to Vietnam, and General Romulo of the Philippines, a former President of the UN General Assembly, addressed contemporary Asian problems. Hundreds of citizens attended the many programs.

### TIPS FOR RELUCTANT READERS

If your child doesn't like to read, consider the following tips:

1. **Find a book with a great story** - one that is so exciting and compelling that it will carry children along. Ask your child's teacher or public librarian for recommendations.
2. **Share the first chapter together**, then discuss the characters, plot and what you think might happen next. Continue to read together until you get your child "hooked" on the book.
3. **Look for illustrated books** that don't need to be read cover to cover, such as Stephen Biesty's "incredible" books and DK's "eyewitness" books. Children browse the pictures and end up reading the text.
4. **Let the books be a little too easy** when reading for pleasure. With a little practice, reading will become easier, and your child can move to higher levels.

Lorry Risinger  
Youth Services  
434-455-6320

### SPEAKING OF BOOKS

*@ your library™*

The adult book discussion group has chosen the books for discussion for the months of January through June. Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00 PM, and new members are always welcome. Bring your lunch, if you wish; beverages and dessert are provided. For more information, call 455-6310.

January 19 *A Room with a View* by E.M. Forster  
February 16 *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon  
March 16 *Wish You Well* by David Baldacci  
[a **Lynchburg Reads** activity]  
April 20 *Daughter of Time* by Josephine Tey  
May 18 *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini  
June 15 *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd